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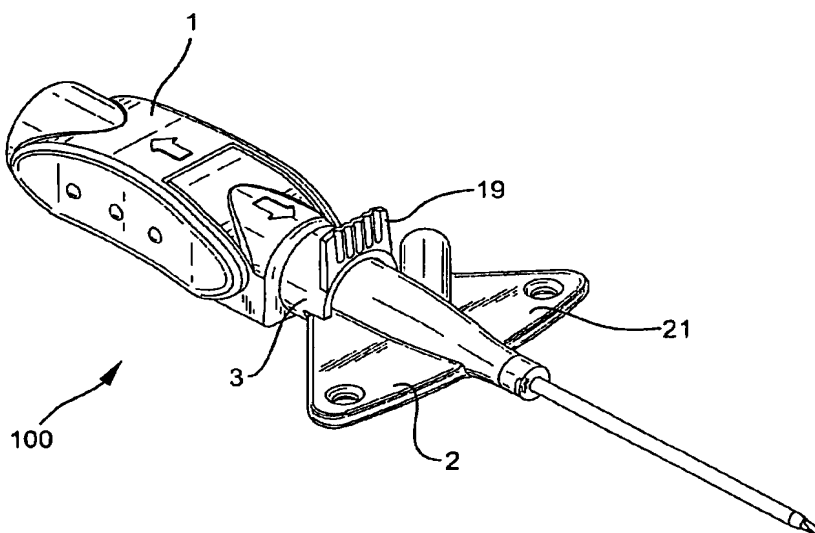
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **IV CATHETER AND NEEDLE ASSEMBLY AND METHOD**



(57) Abstract: An IV catheter includes a catheter having a wall defining a lumen, a proximal end, and a distal end. An adapter has a proximal end, a distal end and an internal cavity. The adapter is in fluid communication with the catheter lumen. A septum is positioned within the adapter cavity at the adapter proximal end. An extension tube extends laterally from the adapter and is in fluid communication with adapter cavity. A tip shield has a distal end, a proximal end and an internal cavity. The tip shield is positioned adjacent adapter proximal end and coaxially aligned with adapter. A hub has a proximal portion, a distal portion and an internal cavity. The hub is positioned adjacent the tip shield proximal end and is aligned coaxially with the catheter, adapter, tip shield and hub. The cannula passes through and is coaxially aligned with the catheter, adapter, tip shield and hub.

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